

Valid Institutional Student Information Record (valid ISIR): An ISIR on which all the information used in calculating the applicant's expected family contribution is accurate and complete as of the date the application is signed.

Valid Student Aid Report (valid SAR): A Student Aid Report on which all of the information used in calculating the applicant's expected family contribution is accurate and complete as of the date the application is signed.

(e)(1) As used in this part, the terms "first-year," "second-year," "third-year," "fourth-year," and "fifth-year" refer to a student's grade level in the student's eligible program as determined by the institution for all students in the eligible program.

(2) A student's grade level for purposes of the ACG and National SMART Grant programs must be the same grade level as used for determining annual loan limits under the FFEL and Direct Loan programs (34 CFR parts 682 and 685).

(Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1070a-1)

[71 FR 38004, July 3, 2006, as amended at 72 FR 61263, Oct. 29, 2007; 72 FR 62034, Nov. 1, 2007; 74 FR 20221, May 1, 2009; 74 FR 61245, Nov. 23, 2009; 75 FR 66968, Oct. 29, 2010]

§§ 691.3–691.5 [Reserved]

§ 691.6 Duration of student eligibility—undergraduate course of study.

(a) While enrolled in an ACG-eligible program, a student is eligible to receive up to one ACG Scheduled Award while enrolled as a first-year student and one ACG Scheduled Award while enrolled as a second-year student.

(b)(1) While enrolled in a National SMART Grant-eligible program, a student is eligible to receive up to one National SMART Grant Scheduled Award while enrolled as a third-year student, one National SMART Grant Scheduled Award while enrolled as a fourth-year student, and, in the case of a National SMART Grant-eligible program with five full years of coursework, one National SMART Grant Scheduled Award while enrolled as a fifth-year student.

(2)(i) A student's eligibility to receive up to one National SMART Grant Scheduled Award as a fourth-year student, in the case of a National SMART Grant-eligible program with less than

five full years of coursework, extends from the beginning of the student's fourth year until he or she completes his or her first undergraduate baccalaureate course of study.

(ii) A student's eligibility to receive up to one National SMART Grant Scheduled Award as a fifth-year student, in the case of a National SMART Grant-eligible program with at least five full years of coursework, extends from the beginning of the student's fifth year until he or she completes his or her first undergraduate baccalaureate course of study.

(c) A student may not receive more than two ACG Scheduled Awards and three National SMART Grant Scheduled Awards during the student's undergraduate education in all eligible programs.

(Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1070a-1)

[74 FR 20222, May 1, 2009]

§ 691.7 Institutional participation.

(a) An institution that offers one or more eligible programs, as defined in § 691.2(d), for purposes of the ACG Program, and that participates in the Federal Pell Grant Program under 34 CFR part 690 must participate in the ACG Program.

(b) An institution that offers one or more eligible programs, as defined in § 691.2(d), for purposes of the National SMART Grant Program, and that participates in the Federal Pell Grant Program under 34 CFR part 690 must participate in the National SMART Grant Program.

(c) If an institution begins participation in the ACG or National SMART Grant Program during an award year, a student enrolled and attending that institution is eligible to receive a grant under this part for the payment period during which the institution begins participation and any subsequent payment period.

(d) If an institution becomes ineligible to participate in the ACG or National SMART Grant Program during an award year, a student who was eligible for a grant under § 691.15 who was attending the institution and who submitted a valid SAR to the institution, or for whom the institution obtained a

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valid ISIR, before the date the institution became ineligible is paid a grant for that award year for—

(1) The payment periods that the student completed before the institution became ineligible; and

(2) The payment period in which the institution became ineligible.

(e)(1) If an institution loses its eligibility to participate in the Federal Pell Grant Program under the provisions of subpart M of 34 CFR part 668, it also loses its eligibility to participate in the ACG or National SMART Grant Program for the same period of time.

(2) That loss of eligibility must be in accordance with the provisions of 34 CFR 668.187.

(f) An institution that becomes ineligible shall, within 45 days after the effective date of loss of eligibility, provide to the Secretary—

(1) The name of each eligible student under § 691.15 who, during the award year, submitted a valid SAR to the institution or for whom it obtained a valid ISIR before it became ineligible;

(2) The amount of funds paid to each grant recipient for that award year;

(3) The amount due each student eligible to receive a grant through the end of the payment period during which the institution became ineligible; and

(4) An accounting of the ACG or National SMART Grant Program expenditures for that award year to the date of termination.

(Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1070a–1)

§ 691.8 Enrollment status for students taking regular and correspondence courses.

(a) If, in addition to regular coursework, a student takes correspondence courses from either his or her own institution or another institu-

tion having an agreement for this purpose with the student's institution, the correspondence work may be included in determining the student's enrollment status to the extent permitted under paragraph (b) of this section.

(b) Except as noted in paragraph (c) of this section, the correspondence work that may be included in determining a student's enrollment status is that amount of work that—

(1) Applies toward a student's degree or certificate or is remedial work taken by the student to help in his or her eligible program;

(2) Is completed within the period of time required for regular coursework; and

(3) Does not exceed the amount of a student's regular coursework for the payment period for which the student's enrollment status is being calculated.

(c)(1) Notwithstanding the limitation in paragraph (b)(3) of this section, a student who would be a half-time student based solely on his or her correspondence work is considered a half-time student unless the calculation in paragraph (b) of this section produces an enrollment status greater than half-time.

(2) A student who would be a less-than-half-time student based solely on his or her correspondence work or based on a combination of his or her correspondence work and regular coursework is considered a less-than-half-time student and is ineligible for an ACG or a National SMART Grant.

(d) The following chart provides examples of the application of the regulations set forth in this section. It assumes that the institution of higher education defines full-time enrollment as 12 credits per term, making half-time enrollment equal to six credits per term.

Under § 691.8	Number of credit hours regular work	Number of credit hours correspondence	Total course load in credit hours to determine enrollment status	Enrollment status
(b)(3)	3	3	6	Half-time.
(b)(3)	3	6	6	Half-time.
(b)(3)	3	9	6	Half-time.
(b)(3)	6	3	9	Three-quarter-time.
(b)(3)	6	6	12	Full-time.
(b)(3) and (c)	2	6	6	Half-time.
(c) *				Less-than-half-time.

* Any combination of regular and correspondence work that is greater than zero, but less than six hours. A less-than-half-time student would be ineligible for an ACG or a National SMART Grant.